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REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated March 1, 2004. In view of the following discussion, the Applicant believes that all claims are in allowable form.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been edited to bring the number of words within the range of 50-150 words.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 44

Claim 44 stands rejected as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,535,090, issued July 9, 1996 to Sherman (hereinafter referred to as *Sherman*). The Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Claim 44 recites limitations not taught or suggested by *Sherman*. *Sherman* does not teach or suggest a method of assembling a wafer support assembly comprising low temperature brazing a puck to a composite cooling plate structure and electron beam welding the composite cooling plate structure to a pedestal.

In contrast, the embodiment of *Sherman* discuss in Figure 1 is silent regarding how the ESC 8 is coupled to the metal housing 12, as opposed to the embodiment of Figure 2, wherein the ESC is brazed to a ceramic base. Moreover, *Sherman* teaches that the housing 12 and metal base 4 are welded, and that a heater/cooler assembly 15 is coupled to base 4. Thus, the heater/cooler assembly 15 is separated from the ESC 8 by two metal components 12, 4, and therefore, can not be brazed to a puck as recited by claim 44.

Thus, the Applicant submits that claim 44, and claims 45-52 that depend therefrom, are patentable over *Sherman*. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests the rejection be withdrawn.

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ALLOWED CLAIMS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his comments regarding the allowability of claims 1-43 and 53-67. The Applicant additionally thanks the Examiner for his comments regarding the allowability of claims 45-52 if rewritten in independent form, including all the limitations of the base and any intervening claims. However, in light of the discussion above, the Applicant submits that claims 45-52 are allowable as they now stand.


CONCLUSION

Thus, the Applicant submits that all claims now pending are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issuance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that any unresolved issues still exist, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Keith Taboada at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

June 1, 2004



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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile under 37 C.F.R. §1.8 on June 1, 2004 and is addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, Facsimile No. (703) 872-9306.

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Allyson M. DeVesty
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6-1-04
Date of signature

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